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TYCO 17674 (AT 20958-2034)
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Powell et al. :
: Art Unit: 2833
Serial No.: 09/963,720 :
: Examiner: Leon, Edwin A.
Filed: September 26, 2001 :
: :
For: ULTRASONIC WELDED :
CONNECTOR STICK :

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Robert Kapalka
Robert J. Kapalka

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

This communication responds to the Office Action dated July 29, 2005. There are no claim amendments.

Claims 15, 18-24, 26, 30-34, 36-39, 41 and 42 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Czaja (US 4,717,360) in view of Applicant's admitted prior art. Reconsideration is requested.

The Examiner states that Czaja discloses the claimed invention except for the use of ultrasonic weld to connect the first and second connectors. The Examiner then points to applicants' disclosure at page 7, lines 9-12, which states that T-welding is well known, and from this the Examiner reaches the conclusion that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the connector of Czaja by using ultrasonic weld.

It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner has misread the applicants' disclosure and has mischaracterized its teaching. The portion of the disclosure pointed out by the Examiner (page 7, lines 9-12) describes the present invention with reference to Figs. 8 and 9. Fig. 8 shows